

## Message Text

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 01 MADRID 03124 251228Z  
ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 EURE-00 SSO-00 NSCE-00 USIE-00  
INRE-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-04 H-01 INR-07 L-03  
NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15 OMB-01  
TRSE-00 /053 W

-----251231Z 107392 /53

O 251043Z APR 77  
FM AMEMBASSY MADRID  
TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 9930

C O N F I D E N T I A L MADRID 3124

E.O. 11652: GDS  
TAGS: PINT,SP  
SUBJECT: REASONS FOR POSTPONEMENT OF ANNOUNCEMENT OF SUAREZ'S  
CANDIDACY.

1. I MET WITH SECOND DEPUTY PRIME MINISTER ALFONSO  
OSORIO THIS MORNING TO GET A LAST MINUTE READING OF THE  
POLITICAL SITUATION. I PARTICULARLY INQUIRED WHY SUAREZ  
HAD POSTPONED THE RADIO-TV SPEECH WHICH HE WAS TO HAVE  
MADE APRIL 23 TO ANNOUNCE HIS CANDIDACY.

2. OSORIO TOLD ME THAT THE RADIO-TV SPEECH HAD BEEN  
POSTPONED MORE OR LESS AT THE LAST MINUTE UNTIL AFTER  
THE RETURN OF SUAREZ FROM HIS TRIP FOR TWO REASONS. THE  
FIRST ONE WAS THAT ON FURTHER REFLECTION IT WAS FELT  
UNDESIRABLE FOR SUAREZ TO ANNOUNCE HIS CANDIDACY AND  
THE IMMEDIATELY LEAVE THE COUNTRY. THIS MIGHT HAVE HAD  
AN ADVERSE PUBLIC EFFECT. THE SECOND REASON WAS THAT  
IT HAD BEEN LEARNED THAT THE RIGHT WING ALIANZA POPULAR

WOULD ATTACH SUAREZ'S CANDIDACY AND SUAREZ HAD NOT  
WANTED TO HAVE THIS DONE WHILE HE WAS OUT OF THE  
CONFIDENTIAL

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 02 MADRID 03124 251228Z

COUNTRY AND UNABLE TO REPLY.

3. OSORIO INDICATED THAT THE PRIME MINISTER WAS FULLY  
AWARE OF THE DESIRABILITY OF LETTING IT BE KNOWN THAT  
HE HAD DECIDED TO BECOME A CANDIDATE BEFORE ARRIVING  
IN THE UNITED STATES IN ORDER THAT OPPOSITION ELEMENTS  
HERE COULD NOT SUGGEST THAT HIS CANDIDACY WAS DUE TO

U.S. PRESSURE. CONSEQUENTLY SUAREZ PLANNED EITHER ON HIS FLIGHT TO MEXICO, OR WHILE IN MEXICO, TO ANSWER A PLANTED QUESTION BY A SPANISH NEWSPAPERMAN ABOUT HIS CANDIDACY. SUAREZ WOULD INDICATE THAT HE AHD MADE HIS DECISION PRIOR TO HIS DEPARTURE FROM MADRID AND THAT HE HAD INDEED TAPED HIS MESSAGE WHICH WOULD BE GIVEN ON HIS REUTRN. HE WOULD LET IT BE KNOWN THAT HIS DECISION WAS A POSITIVE ONE.

4. REFERRING TO THE RESIGNATION ANNOUNCED APRIL 24 OF MINISTER OF PUBLIC WORKS CALVO SOTELO, OSORIO SAID THAT SUAREZ INTENDED TO RUN HIS CAMPAIGN THROUGH THE QUOTE INTERPOSED PERSON UNQUOTE OF CALVO SOTELO. SUAREZ WOULD TRY TO KEEP HIS OWN CAMPAIGN APPEARANCES TO A MINIMUM IN AN ATTEMPT TO AVOID THE CRITICISM THAT HE WAS USING THE OFFICE OF THE PRIME MINISTER FOR HIS ENDS.

5. CONCERNING EFFORTS TO CREATE A LARGE CENTER BLOCK, OSORIO SAID THAT THER WOULD BE ONE MORE MEETING, APRIL 25, BETWEEN CENTRO DEMOCRATICO AND THE QUOTE CHRISTIAN DEMOCRATIC TEAM UNQUOTE, BUT HE DID NOT BELIEVE AN AGREEMENT COULD BE REACHED. THE PROBLEM CAME MAINLY FROM GIL ROBLES WHO WANTED TO CHRISTIAN DEMOCRATS TO BE AVAILABLE TO FORM SOME ELECTORAL LISTS WITH THE PSOE AND THE PCE. RUIZ GIMENEZ WAS BELING HELPFUL IN TRYING TO BRING ABOUT GREATER CENTER COHERSION, BUT OSORIO BELIEVED THAT THE MEETING TODAY WOULD PRODUCE NO RESULTS AND THAT CENTRO DEMOCRATICO AND THE QUOTE CHRISTIAN DEMOCRATIC TEAM UNQUOTE WOULD RUN SEPARATE LISTS. HOWEVER, HE HOPED THERE

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 03 MADRID 03124 251228Z

WOULD BE SOME COORDINATION BETWEEN THE TWO AND THIS WOULD BE HELPED, HE THOUGHT, BY SUAREZ'S CANDIDACY.

6. LOOKING AHEAD TO THE POST-ELECTORAL PHASE, OSORIO SAID HE THOUGHT THE FIRST ORDER OF BUSINESS WOULD BE A RESHUFFLE OF THE GOVERNMENT. HE ANTICIPATED THAT THE ECONOMIC MINISTERS WOULD BE CHANGED BUT NOT THE POLITICAL ONES. AFTER THAT THE GOVERNMENT WOULD PRESENT THE BROAD LINES OF A ECONOMIC STABILIZATION PROGRAM TO THE NEW CORTES AND SEEK AUTHORIZATION TO APPLY THOSE MEASURES DURING THE SUMMER MONTHS. OSORIO EMPHASIZED THAT IT WAS THE GOVERNMENT'S INTENTION TO MOVE RAPIDLY FOLLOWING THE ELECTIONS TO TAKE THE NECESSARY ECONOMIC MEASURES. WHEN I MENTIONED THAT ONE SPANISH GOVERNMENT OFFICAL HAD SUGGESTED THAT THESE MEASURES MIGHT WAIT A CONSIDERABLY LONGER TIME TO BE PRESENTED, HE DISMISSED THIS AS INACCURATE AND REPEATED THAT THE GOVERNMENT INTENDED TO MOVE ON THE ECONOMIC FRONT QUICKLY.

7. FINALLY, OSORIO SAID THAT WHEN THE CORTES RECONVENED AFTER THE SUMMER HOLIDAYS IT WOULD ADDRESS ITS ATTENTION TOW RITING A CONSITUTION. THERE WERE THREE POSITIONS ON THIS. ALIANZA POPULAR WANTED ONLY TO RETOUCH THE FUNDAMENTAL AND ORGANIC LAWS AS THEY NOW EXIST; THE LEFT WANTED TO ERASE THE SLATE CLEAN AND WRITE AN ENTIRELY NEW CONSTITUTION; WHILE THE GOVERNMENT WANTED TO WRITE A NEW CONSTITUTION WHILE PRESERVING THOSE ELEMENTS IN THE PRESENT LAWS WHICH ARE USEFUL. OSORIO SAID THAT SPAIN NEEDED A CONSTITUTION PER SE SINCE MANY OF THE PRESETN FUNDAMENTAL AND ORGANIC LAWS WERE CONFUSING AND CONTRADICTORY. STABLER

CONFIDENTIAL

NNN

## Message Attributes

**Automatic Decaptioning:** X  
**Capture Date:** 01-Jan-1994 12:00:00 am  
**Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
**Concepts:** PUBLIC DISCLOSURE, ELECTION CANDIDATES  
**Control Number:** n/a  
**Copy:** SINGLE  
**Sent Date:** 25-Apr-1977 12:00:00 am  
**Decaption Date:** 01-Jan-1960 12:00:00 am  
**Decaption Note:**  
**Disposition Action:** RELEASED  
**Disposition Approved on Date:**  
**Disposition Case Number:** n/a  
**Disposition Comment:** 25 YEAR REVIEW  
**Disposition Date:** 22 May 2009  
**Disposition Event:**  
**Disposition History:** n/a  
**Disposition Reason:**  
**Disposition Remarks:**  
**Document Number:** 1977MADRID03124  
**Document Source:** CORE  
**Document Unique ID:** 00  
**Drafter:** n/a  
**Enclosure:** n/a  
**Executive Order:** GS  
**Errors:** N/A  
**Expiration:**  
**Film Number:** D770143-0522  
**Format:** TEL  
**From:** MADRID  
**Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Image Path:**  
**ISecure:** 1  
**Legacy Key:** link1977/newtext/t19770423/aaaaatqq.tel  
**Line Count:** 129  
**Litigation Code IDs:**  
**Litigation Codes:**  
**Litigation History:**  
**Locator:** TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM  
**Message ID:** 5238969f-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc  
**Office:** ACTION EUR  
**Original Classification:** CONFIDENTIAL  
**Original Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Original Previous Classification:** n/a  
**Original Previous Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Page Count:** 3  
**Previous Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Previous Classification:** CONFIDENTIAL  
**Previous Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Reference:** n/a  
**Retention:** 0  
**Review Action:** RELEASED, APPROVED  
**Review Content Flags:**  
**Review Date:** 11-Mar-2005 12:00:00 am  
**Review Event:**  
**Review Exemptions:** n/a  
**Review Media Identifier:**  
**Review Release Date:** n/a  
**Review Release Event:** n/a  
**Review Transfer Date:**  
**Review Withdrawn Fields:** n/a  
**SAS ID:** 2706711  
**Secure:** OPEN  
**Status:** NATIVE  
**Subject:** REASONS FOR POSTPONEMENT OF ANNOUNCEMENT OF SUAREZ'S CANDIDACY.  
**TAGS:** PINT, PGOV, SP, (SUAREZ, ADOLFO)  
**To:** STATE  
**Type:** TE  
**vdkgvwkey:** odbc://SAS/SAS.dbo.SAS\_Docs/5238969f-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc  
**Review Markings:**  
Margaret P. Grafeld  
Declassified/Released  
US Department of State  
EO Systematic Review  
22 May 2009  
**Markings:** Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 22 May 2009